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CLAIM PTO

01/18/02

T.D.

CANCELLED CLAIMS 1-21

22. A method for providing information to a subscriber on a messaging system,

the method comprising the steps of:

providing a mailbox ID and service information to a messaging platform, said mailbox ID corresponding to a subscriber serviced by said messaging platform and said service information including an information type, a delivery period, and a delivery format;

sending a request to a master platform in response to said service information, said master platform responding to said request by requesting information from an information source, said information corresponding to said service information;

sending information received from said information source to said messaging platform;

converting information received from said information source into a delivery format corresponding to said delivery format selected in said step of providing service information; and

providing said information to a subscriber when said subscriber accesses a mailbox corresponding to said mailbox ID.

23. The method in claim 22, further including the step of maintaining a master profile table, said master profile table having a messaging platform profile for each messaging platform established on the messaging network, said messaging platform profile including a host ID, an area of operation, an operation schedule, and a token pool. -

24. The method in claim 22, wherein said delivery format includes a fax delivery format.

25. The method in claim 22, wherein said delivery format includes a voice delivery format.

26. The method in claim 22, wherein said delivery format includes an email format.

27. The method of claim 22, wherein said master platform forwards said information received from said information source to said messaging platform only when said messaging platform has an in-operation status.

28. The method of claim 27, where said in-operation status is based on said operation schedule defined for said messaging platform.

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29. The method of claim 22, wherein said master platform delays sending said information received from said information source to said messaging platform when said messaging platform has a non-operational status.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said non-operational status is obtained when said token pool falls below a selected threshold.

31. The method of claim 22, where said master platform converts said information received from said information source into an email format and sends said email formatted information to a mailbox supported by a messaging platform that corresponds to said mailbox ID, if an email format has been chosen as said delivery format.

CANCELLED CLAIMS 32-51

52. A system for delivering information to a subscriber on a messaging system, the system comprising:

a messaging platform having means for receiving a mailbox ID and service information from a subscriber and means for requesting from a master platform information corresponding to said service information, said master platform having means for communicating with an information source, said means for communicating responsive to said means for requesting by requesting information corresponding to said service information from said information source;

wherein said master platform responds to any information received from said information source by sending said information to said messaging platform; and

wherein said messaging platform converts said information to have a delivery format corresponding to a delivery format selected by said subscriber, said messaging platform having means for providing said information in said delivery format to said subscriber when said subscriber accesses a mailbox corresponding to said mailbox ID.

53. The system in claim 52, wherein said service information includes an information type, a delivery period, and a delivery format.

54. The system in claim 52, wherein said delivery format includes a voice delivery format.

55. The system in claim 52, wherein said delivery format includes an email format.

56. The system in claim 52, wherein said delivery format includes a fax format.

57. The system of claim 52, wherein said master platform forwards said information received from said information source to said messaging platform only when said messaging platform has an in-operation status.

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58. The system of claim 57, wherein said in-operation status is based on said operation schedule defined for said messaging platform.

59. The system of claim 52, wherein said master platform delays sending said information received from said information source to said messaging platform when said messaging platform has a non-operational status.

60. The system of claim 59, wherein said non-operational status is obtained when said token pool falls below a selected threshold.

61. The system of claim 52, where said master platform converts said information received from said information source into an email format and sends said email formatted information to a mailbox supported by a messaging platform that corresponds to said mailbox ID, if an email format has been chosen as said delivery format.